



From the Pastor's Desk

"A Child is born for us, and a son has been given to us; His scepter of power rests upon His shoulder, and His name will be called Messenger of great counsel."

Isaiah 9:5

As Christians throughout the entire world pause to rejoice this day on the anniversary of the birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, we as a parish family here at St. Matthew gather to offer our praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for the gift of his son, Jesus in our lives. As we celebrate the gift of Christmas, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the members of St. Matthew Parish along with your family and friends a very happy and blessed Christmas. It is indeed a privilege for me to be the pastor of such a wonderful parish. As we look back, this past year has been truly blessed: in June we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the solemn religious profession of our school principal, Sister Christina Joseph, I.H.M. as a Sister Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and in October we were honored to have Archbishop Mansell celebrate the opening Mass for the fiftieth anniversary of St. Matthew School. As I reflect upon all the many good things that are happening here at St. Matthew each and every day, I thank God for the gift that you are and I pray that the Lord will continue to bless all of us with good health and much happiness as we prepare to enter the coming New Year. Merry Christmas to everyone!

Monsignor Ginty



We welcome into the faith community of St. Matthew Parish

Emma Michele Bernard

And

Natalie Therese Mindek

Whose baptisms took place here at St. Matthew

on December 18, 2011

Advent Giving Program

We are pleased to report that through the generosity of the parishioners of St. Matthew Parish well over 4,000 Christmas gifts were donated this year to those in need. We would like to thank Sue Jones and Sandy Romans for coordinating our Advent Giving Program this year. In addition we would like to thank the following parishioners for all their hard work in making this a Merry Christmas for so many:

Janett D'Aprile

Maureen Drzewiecki

Debbie Johnson

Bernadette Leschinski

Karen Roy

Anita Saucier

Donna Slusz

Elli Thomson

Evelyn Zack

WELCOME HOME!



We welcome with sincere hearts and opened arms all those who attend Mass this Christmas Day. This is indeed a very special day in which we celebrate the gift of Christ's presence among us, if you are new to the parish or would like to speak to Monsignor Ginty for any reason, please print your name and phone number in the space provided below and Monsignor Ginty will call you in the next few weeks. Again, welcome!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD, CHRISTMAS



PreK 3 has been working on a number book and are busy little bees learning that Jesus is God's gift to us and that a smile is a gift we can give to others to make them happy! We have enjoyed our Advent season with all of our preparations for the coming of Jesus. Merry Christmas to everyone!

The **Kinders** are getting excited for Christmas. They continue to learn more words and are beginning to write sentences and stories. In Math we are working with numbers and the number line .

First Graders are learning how to write letters. They have sent their families Christmas cards in the mail.

Second Grade is very excited to have started writing cursive letters. We are also busy writing Christmas letters to our pen pals at St. Joseph school and learning about plane shapes and angles. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The **Third Graders** are working on their science fair project. They are testing whether fresh cut roses or carnations absorb more water.

Fourth Graders are busy practicing for their performance of "Old Befana." They are also making factor trees and finding prime and composite numbers in Math and learning how to fight infections in Science. Have a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Fifth Grade is studying the cardiovascular system, the order of operations, and the first European settlements in the Americas.

The **Sixth Graders** are studying pronouns and learning to distinguish between possessive pronouns and possessive adjectives.

The **Seventh Grade** is enjoying reading Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" and learning about life in Victorian England. We will also had some fun with the story when we watched "A Muppet Christmas Carol" and found the pop-culture additions to the time-less classic.

Eighth Grade is beginning a unit where we will explore the history of African cultures, from Egypt through today. We will learn about the various landforms, bodies of water, climates, and natural resources of Africa and relate distribution to economic development of the continent.

Children's Liturgy

Important Notice

There will be **no** Children's Liturgy on Sunday, January 1st.

Have a Blessed New Year!

Be a part of our Legacy!

St. Matthew School is currently selling tiles to adorn the hallways of our school when renovations are completed. The tiles are \$25.00 each and are on display in the front entrance of the church in the kiosk along with the order forms. Honor an alumni, a teacher, a student, one who has passed on, or someone who is your everyday hero or congratulations to the school for 50 years! Thank you for your support !



Come Join Us for Delicious Polish Food!

Our annual Polish Dinner will be held on Saturday, January 14, at 5 p.m. in the school gym. Tickets will be on sale after Masses the weekends of 12/31-1/1 and 1/7-1/8 and available at the rectory during business hours M-F. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults and \$5 for children under five. Last year, over 300 parishioners attended this night of fellowship...come in from the cold for warm food and friendship! Any questions, please contact Chris O'Dell at 860-589-5512.



GOT BOOKS?

We're looking for your used paperbacks, hardcovers, cd's & dvd's, audio books and records. Simply collect what you're not using, come to the church parking lot and look for the Got Books Container (right next to the Boy Scouts trailers), deposit your items, and when we fill the container, St. Matthew School receives a check! A great way to recycle...and to help our school and our parish! Tell your friends and family...every little book helps!



Father Arthur Audet, Carol Babine, Mary Bailey, Charlotte Blanchard, Jean Blais, Jamie Botteon, Josephine Camerato, Rejeanne Cormier, Connie Czapinski, Claudette Desprey, Florence Dlugosz, Gracie Dory, David T. Faitani, Gail Faitani, Tom Filipetti, Betty Franklin, Robert Gibson, Doris Gonya, Jeanne Graham, Cameron Greenwood, Margaret Hennessey, Maureen Hennessey, Linda Hill, Rose Ingham, Jonathan Julia, Rose Kozikowski, Joan Lafountain, Thomas Leahy, Daniel Long, Al McCue, Helen Mantie, Bertrand Marquis, Jane Moore, Kathy Narcum, Ed Nixon, David Parker, Philip Pelletier, Dorothy Perkins, Chris Perotti, Wesley Phoenix, Jaimie Przygocki, Beatrice Salvatore, Charles Schleicher, Marie Sebastian, Gloria Semplice, Robert Silva, George Simpson, Joseph Skelskey, Phyllis Spooner, William Stevens III, Timothy Walsh, Ethel Zanetti, Mandy Zanetti, Anna Matthews, Phyllis Heath, Darrell Daigle, Michelle Bouchard, Kyle Errato, Donald Cyr, Margaret Follo, Janice Rivard, Natalie Cosman, Sherry Gillette, Amelia Mahar, Theresa Cyr, Shirley Andrew, Betty Sherman, Judith Ackley, Joy Adamski, Verna Bouchard, Wilma Matulka (Sister Regina's mother), Peter Palmisano, Richard Lissy, Margaret Bazzoni, Herman Desprey, Priscilla Jandreau and Fobert Fanion.



**The LORD, my God
lights up my darkness.**

The **Sanctuary Lamp** is burning this week in honor of

Walter Bartkiewicz

By his daughter, Joan

The seven-day candle before the statue of **Mary** is lit as a Prayerful vigil for

Vito J. Delfino

By the his wife and daughters

The seven-day candle before the statue of **Joseph** is lit as a prayerful vigil for

Edward Petke

By his wife, Lucille

Please call the rectory to have the Sanctuary Lamp or seven-day candle before the statue of Mary or Joseph lit for a loved one.



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| Saturday | December 24th Christmas Eve |
| 3:00 | Floyd and Aldo Ryder by their family |
| 4:30 | Alice Anderson (8 th Anniversary) by her daughter |
| 6:00 | St. Matthew Parishioners living and deceased |
| 10:00 | Ferdinando and Michael D'Amico by the D'Amico Family |
| Sunday | December 25th Christmas |
| 8:00 | Albert Pelletier by his wife and family |
| 9:30 | George and Antoinette Pahl by their children |
| 11:00 | Christopher Sirois by his Mom, Dad and family |
| Monday | December 26th |
| 7:30 | Dora and Leo Paderewski by John and Helen Lobaczewski |
| Tuesday | December 27th |
| 7:30 | Russell Ouellette by his mom and dad |
| Wednesday | December 28th |
| 7:30 | Jean Breton by Clement & Roseline Breton |
| Thursday | December 29th |
| 7:30 | Kathy Bresnahan by Beverly Brown |
| Friday | December 30th |
| 7:30 | Irene (Newsome) Munson by Guild of the Blessed Sacrament |
| Saturday | December 31st |
| 8:30 | Gerard A. Deschenes Sr. by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Savino and family |
| 4:00 | Louis Masi by his daughter |
| Sunday | January 1st |
| 7:00 | St. Matthew Parishioners living and deceased |
| 8:30 | William Santorso by his wife and children |
| 10:00 | St. Matthew Parishioners living and deceased |
| 11:30 | St. Matthew Parishioners living and deceased |



For New Year's, the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 2nd, 2012. The Office will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2012 at the regular time. Thank you.

St. Matthew

Acct: 03-0449